

**California Marine Life Protection Act Initiative  
Central Coast Project  
Staff Summary of Area and Habitats in Package 0 (Existing Central Coast MPAs)  
Revised March 29, 2006 (format only)**

**Overall Summary for Package 0 (Existing Central Coast MPAs 2005)**

Type of MPA	# Existing	Area (mi <sup>2</sup> )	% of Study Region
<b>Special Closure (SC)</b>	1	2.20 mi <sup>2</sup>	0.19%
<b>State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA)</b>	7	33.50 mi <sup>2</sup>	2.91%
<b>State Marine Park (SMP)</b>	0	0.00 mi <sup>2</sup>	0.00%
<b>State Marine Reserve (SMR)</b>	5	7.45 mi <sup>2</sup>	0.65%
<b>All MPAs combined</b>	13	43.15 mi <sup>2</sup>	3.75%

<sup>1</sup> Note: These are existing MPA designations, NOT levels of protection assigned by the MLPA Master Plan Science Advisory Team.

**Individual MPAs in Package 0 (Existing Central Coast MPAs 2005)**

MPA Name <sup>A</sup>	Size (mi <sup>2</sup> )	Along-shore span (mi) <sup>B</sup>	Depth range (ft)
<b>Special Closure: Año Nuevo Invertebrate Area (*)</b>	2.20 mi <sup>2</sup>	5.52 mi	0-55 ft
<b>Elkhorn Slough SMR</b>	1.36 mi <sup>2</sup>	3.16 mi	0-10 ft
<b>Hopkins SMR</b>	0.15 mi <sup>2</sup>	0.52 mi	3-71 ft
<b>Pacific Grove SMCA (*)</b>	1.54 mi <sup>2</sup>	3.45 mi	0-65 ft
<b>Carmel Bay SMCA (*)</b>	2.80 mi <sup>2</sup>	3.11 mi	0-471 ft
<b>Point Lobos SMR</b>	1.19 mi <sup>2</sup>	1.96 mi	0-203 ft
<b>Julia Pfeiffer Burns SMCA (*)</b>	2.65 mi <sup>2</sup>	2.07 mi	3-628 ft
<b>Big Creek SMR</b>	2.27 mi <sup>2</sup>	2.19 mi	0-264 ft
<b>Atascadero Beach SMCA (*)</b>	6.33 mi <sup>2</sup>	1.61 mi	0-234 ft
<b>Morro Beach SMCA (*)</b>	6.82 mi <sup>2</sup>	1.96 mi	0-232 ft
<b>Pismo SMCA (*)</b>	0.08 mi <sup>2</sup>	0.38 mi	3-17 ft
<b>Pismo-Oceano SMCA (*)</b>	13.29 mi <sup>2</sup>	3.80 mi	0-133 ft
<b>Vandenberg SMR</b>	2.48 mi <sup>2</sup>	3.68 mi	3-65 ft

A. Listed north to south. Symbols following proposed MPA name indicate level of protection as determined by the MLPA Master Plan Science Advisory Team (SAT). (\*\*\*) indicates SMCA High, (\*\*) indicates SMCA Moderate, (\*) indicates SMCA Low, and (^) indicates SMP Low. Level of protection was used in the SAT evaluation.

B. Alongshore span measured as direct line from one end of the MPA to the other.

**Habitat Representation in Package 0 (Existing Central Coast MPAs 2005)**

Habitat	Percentage of Mapped Habitat in Existing MPA Designations in the Study Region <sup>1</sup>				
	SC	SMCA	SMP	SMR	Total MPAs
<b>Intertidal</b>					
Sandy or gravel beaches	2.71%	6.45%	0.00%	2.36%	11.51%
Rocky intertidal and cliff	1.30%	6.07%	0.00%	7.99%	15.36%
Coastal marsh	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	25.08%	25.08%
Tidal flats	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	39.02%	39.02%
Seagrass beds (0-30m): Surfgrass	2.85%	7.34%	0.00%	6.05%	16.23%
Seagrass beds (0-30m): Eelgrass	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	2.80%	2.80%
Estuary	0.00%	0.61%	0.00%	13.84%	14.45%
<b>Soft bottom</b>					
0-30 meters	0.70%	5.48%	0.00%	1.67%	7.85%
30-100 meters	0.00%	2.63%	0.00%	0.23%	2.86%
100-200 meters	0.00%	0.03%	0.00%	0.00%	0.03%
>200 meters	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
<b>Hard bottom</b>					
0-30 meters	0.45%	2.88%	0.00%	1.41%	4.74%
30-100 meters	0.00%	1.79%	0.00%	0.69%	2.48%
100-200m	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
>200 meters	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
<b>Kelp forest</b>					
Average kelp ('89, '99, '02, '03)	0.02%	6.23%	0.00%	3.35%	9.61%
Persistent kelp	0.00%	6.61%	0.00%	6.29%	12.90%
<b>Submarine canyon</b>					
0-30 meters	0.00%	31.86%	0.00%	0.00%	31.86%
30-100 meters	0.00%	1.58%	0.00%	0.00%	1.58%
100-200 meters	0.00%	0.17%	0.00%	0.00%	0.17%
>200 meters	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%

<sup>1</sup>Note: These are MPA designations, NOT levels of protection assigned by the MLPA Master Plan Science Advisory Team